

# Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee Executive Subcommittee

December 21, 2015

2:30pm – 4:30pm

EOPSS, Transportation Building

## Meeting Minutes

### Agenda

1. Approve Minutes
2. Annual Report – Distribution
3. New Data Collection Bill - Testimony
4. Dually-Involved Youth Sub-committee – Rep. Dykema Request for Testimony
5. Updates:
  - a. Social Media
  - b. Diversion Study and Outreach to DAs
  - c. Leadership Forum
  - d. DYS-JJAC Leadership Series
  - e. Legislative Update
  - f. JJAC Membership Issues
  - g. Court Holding Facilities and Compliance Monitoring
6. JJAC Meeting Agenda and Invitees
7. Work Plan Review
8. Connecticut's Young Adult Prison
9. Other Business?

**JJAC Attendance:** Robert Gittens, Chair; Cecely Reardon, Vice Chair; Mark Booher, Wes Cotter, Kim Larson

**EOPSS/Other Attendance:** Andrew Polk, Ednei Furtado

**Handouts:** Agenda, Minutes, New Data Bill and previous Testimony, Dually-Involved Youth Legislative Sub-committee and testimony request, Work Plan, Connecticut's Young Adult Prison Article

The subcommittee reviewed and approved the **minutes** from the previous meeting with minor amendments to be incorporated.

The subcommittee discussed **State Senate Bill No. 1241, "An Act improving juvenile justice data collection."** The subcommittee identified some information in the bill that needs to be updated. The bill is similar to the data section of the omnibus juvenile justice bill for which the JJAC previously submitted testimony. The subcommittee decided to submit similar testimony, with some changes to correct erroneous information, for the new data bill.

The subcommittee discussed the request from Representative Dykema for the JJAC to provide information and recommendations regarding youth who are involved in both the child welfare system

and the juvenile justice system to the **Legislative Sub-committee on Dually-Involved (DCF/DYS) Youth**. At the moment EOPSS would like the JJAC to refrain from submitting information. The subcommittee discussed ideas and issues that are relevant to Representative Dykema's request. Chair Gittens indicated he would contact EOPSS to discuss the matter.

Andrew Polk informed the subcommittee that EOPSS's legal counsel is recommending the JJAC refrain from opening a **social media** account - such as Facebook - due to concerns regarding compliance with the Commonwealth's Open Meetings Law. Chair Gittens will contact EOPSS to seek clarification on the specific reasons why the JJAC should not have a Facebook account.

Chair Gittens updated the subcommittee on the status of releasing the **Diversion Study**. He will be presenting the study to the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Leadership Forum on January 12, 2016. He intends to talk to District Attorney Blodgett about the concerns of the district attorneys.

Dr. Kimberly Larson updated the subcommittee on progress that has been made in the planning of the **JJAC-DYS Leadership Training Series**. There will be a total of six sessions between February and June 2016. The series will address matters such as adolescent development, trauma-informed practices, gender-specific services, desistance and implicit bias. An agenda item for the next JJAC meeting will be to decide who should attend on behalf of the JJAC.

There is no news on the **status of the juvenile legislation** (juvenile competency to stand trial, juvenile expungement and juvenile data collection) for which the JJAC provided testimony several months ago.

Regarding matters pertaining to **JJAC membership**, Mr. Polk informed the subcommittee that EOPSS is in the process of re-constituting the JJAC. It is unclear at this time how this will impact current members.

Ednei Furtado provided the subcommittee with an update of the **court holding facilities** project. A trial period is beginning for facilities that can mitigate sight and sound separation violations by changes in policies and practices. New policies have been drafted for several facilities and there will be a three month pilot period to determine the effectiveness of the changes. It is expected that remedies to all of the non-compliant facilities will be completed within approximately two years.

Mr. Furtado provided an update on the status of compliance matters relating to the **Boston Police Department**. It has taken the department an excessive amount of time to finalize and implement plans relating to where juvenile arrestees should be detained in order to best comply with the separation core requirement of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP). Mr. Furtado and EOPSS will continue to work with the BPD to ensure compliance with the JJDP and data reporting.

Mr. Polk will recommend and solicit **agenda items** for the next JJAC meeting via email to the subcommittee.

A review of the **Work Plan** was tabled until the next meeting due to time constraints.

The meeting was adjourned.